

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

OK TO ENTER: /T.M./ (09/14/2010)

1 - 36: (canceled).

37. (*currently amended*) A method of reduction treatment of steelmaking waste, characterized by:

mixing by agitation steelmaking waste in water sufficient to solublize alkali salts, a pH adjuster, and a carbon-bearing material, then concentrating the mixture to produce a slurry,

wherein the pH of water forming said slurry is adjusted to within the range from 7 to 11.5 to reduce dissolution of zinc and/or lead compounds,

wherein said pH adjuster is at least one of a substance containing OH-groups and fly ash discharged from a refuse melting furnace or incinerator furnace,

pressing said slurry to dehydrate said slurry, thereby providing a dehydrated material enriched in zinc,

extruding said dehydrated material to shape it into shaped articles,

charging said shaped articles into a moving hearth type reduction furnace for reduction and recovering a secondary dust enriched in zinc oxide.

38. (*currently amended*) A method of reduction treatment of steelmaking waste, characterized by:

stirring and mixing steelmaking waste and a pH adjuster in water sufficient to solublize alkali salts, then concentrating the mixture to produce a slurry,

wherein the pH of water forming said slurry is adjusted to within the range from 7 to 11.5 to reduce dissolution of zinc and/or lead compounds,

wherein said pH adjuster is at least one of a substance containing OH-groups and fly ash discharged from a refuse melting furnace or incinerator furnace,

pressing said slurry to dehydrate said slurry, thereby providing a dehydrated material enriched in zinc,

adding and kneading a carbon-bearing material into said dehydrated material,

extruding said dehydrated material to shape it into shaped articles, charging said shaped articles into a moving hearth type reduction furnace for reduction and recovering a secondary dust enriched in zinc oxide.

Claims 39 and 40. (canceled).

41. (*previously presented*) A method of reduction treatment of steel making waste as set forth in claim 37 or 38, characterized in that a pH of the slurry adjusted in pH by said pH adjuster is at least 8.

42. (*previously presented*) A method of reduction treatment of steelmaking waste as set forth in claim 37 or 38, characterized in that said dehydrated material contains moisture in an amount of 16 to 27 mass% of said dehydrated material.

43. (*cancelled*)

44. (*currently amended*) A method of reduction treatment of steelmaking waste as set forth in claim 37 and 38 any of claims 26-27 and 37-38, characterized in that the pH of water of said slurry is adjusted such that the rates of dissolution of zinc and lead are 5% or less.